

TRACKS 2006: Implementing the Tracking Network
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Environmental Public Health Indicators and Health - Environment Information System: Experiences from Europe

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WHO European Centre for Environment and Health

This presentation

- Environment and Health in Europe process
- Health- Environment Indicators and Information System for Europe:
 - Approach to indicators and core set
 - Information design, target audiences
- System products: matching supply to demands, opportunities and challenges
- Our collaboration and partnership across the Atlantic

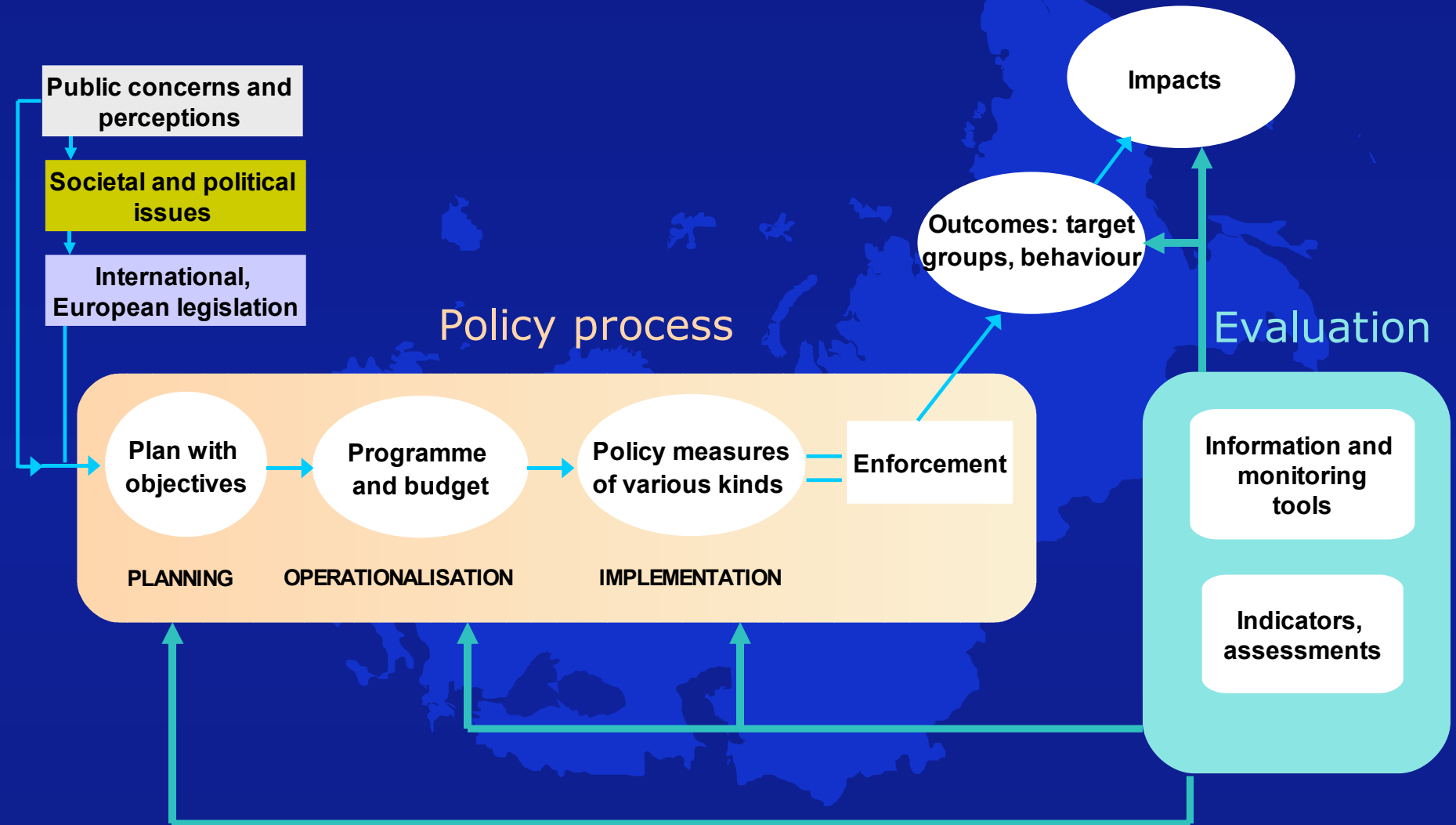


SUSTAINABILITY



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Public policies and accountability



Evaluation of policy in terms of health effects



Ex-ante evaluation:

- Magnitude of exposure
- Health effects/ impacts
- Need for an action?

Ex-post evaluation:

- Change in exposure
- Health effects/ impacts

Requires information:

Comparable

Concise &
understandable

Focusing on priorities

Coverage of priorities



The Environment and Health in Europe Process

Frankfurt, 1989



Helsinki, 1994



Budapest, 2004



London, 1999



NEWARS

CEHAPE

Children's Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe CEHAPE and its Regional Priority Goals

RPG I To prevent and significantly reduce the morbidity and mortality arising from gastrointestinal disorders and other health effects, by ensuring that adequate measures are taken to improve access to safe water and adequate sanitation for all children.

RPG II To prevent and substantially reduce health consequences from accidents and injuries and pursue a decrease in morbidity from lack of adequate physical activity by promoting safe, secure and supportive human settlements for all children



CEHAPE and the Regional Priority Goals

RPG III To prevent and reduce **respiratory disease** due to **outdoor and indoor air pollution**, thereby contributing to a reduction in the frequency of asthmatic attacks in order to ensure that children can live in an environment with clean air



RPG IV To reduce the risk of **disease and disability** arising from exposure to **hazardous chemicals** (such as heavy metals), **physical agents** (e.g. excessive noise) and **biological agents** and to **hazardous working environments** during pregnancy, childhood and adolescence



Environmental Public Health Indicators

Focus: Children's health & the environment, CEHAPE
Exposures <-> (Health) Effects <-> (Policy) Actions

Criteria: **Credibility**
Scientific knowledge of health-environment linkages

Relevance for Member States
Enable comparisons and also use at sub-national level

Flexibility and responsiveness
Review and update the indicators

Avoiding duplication, assuring continuity
Build on previous work

Feasibility
Data retrieval from international databases



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Overview of EPH indicators along CEHAPE RPG (1 of 4)

Gastrointestinal diseases & safe water / sanitation

Indicator Title		Data source	Age
a) Waste water treatment coverage	😊	EUROSTAT	NO
b) Access to improved sanitation	😊	WHO/UNICEF JMP	NO
Recreational water quality	😊	EEA	NO
Drinking water quality	😞		
a) Population with public water supply	😊	EUROSTAT	NO
b) Access to improved water sources	😊	WHO/UNICEF JMP	NO
Outbreaks of water-borne diseases	😞	Case studies	NO
Management of bathing waters	😐	Case studies/ future	NO
Water safety plans	😐	Case studies/ future	NO



Overview of EPH indicators along CEHAPE RPG (2 of 4)

Accidents & injuries / physical activity / secure & supportive human settlements

Indicator Title		Data source	Age
Childhood mortality from traffic accidents	😊	UNECE	YES
Policies to promote safe children's mobility	⚡	Member States	YES
Children mortality from external causes excluding traffic	😊	WHO MDB	YES
Policies to reduce child injuries	⚡	Member States	YES
Physically active children	😊	WHO HBSC	YES
Children's overweight and obesity	😊	WHO HBSC	YES
Policies to reduce children's obesity	⚡	Member States	YES
Non-traffic injuries	😐	EU IDB + Case studies	YES



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Voluntary
basis

Overview of EPH indicators along CEHAPE RPG (3 of 4)

Respiratory disease / outdoor & indoor air pollution

Indicator Title		Data source	Age
Policies to reduce children's passive smoking	😊	WHO TC DB	NO
Prevalence of asthma, allergies in children	😐	ISAAC	YES
Infant mortality from respiratory diseases	😊	WHO MDB	YES
Children's exposure to outdoor air PM ₁₀	😊	EEA AirBase	YES
Children's homes with mould and dampness	😐	EUROSTAT	NO
a) Children's exposed to second hand smoking b) Prevalence of daily smoking in children	😐	US CDC GYTS WHO HBSC	YES
Children exposed to heating/ cooking fuel combustion hazards	😐	World Health Survey	NO
Children in proximity of heavily trafficked roads	😞	Case studies	YES



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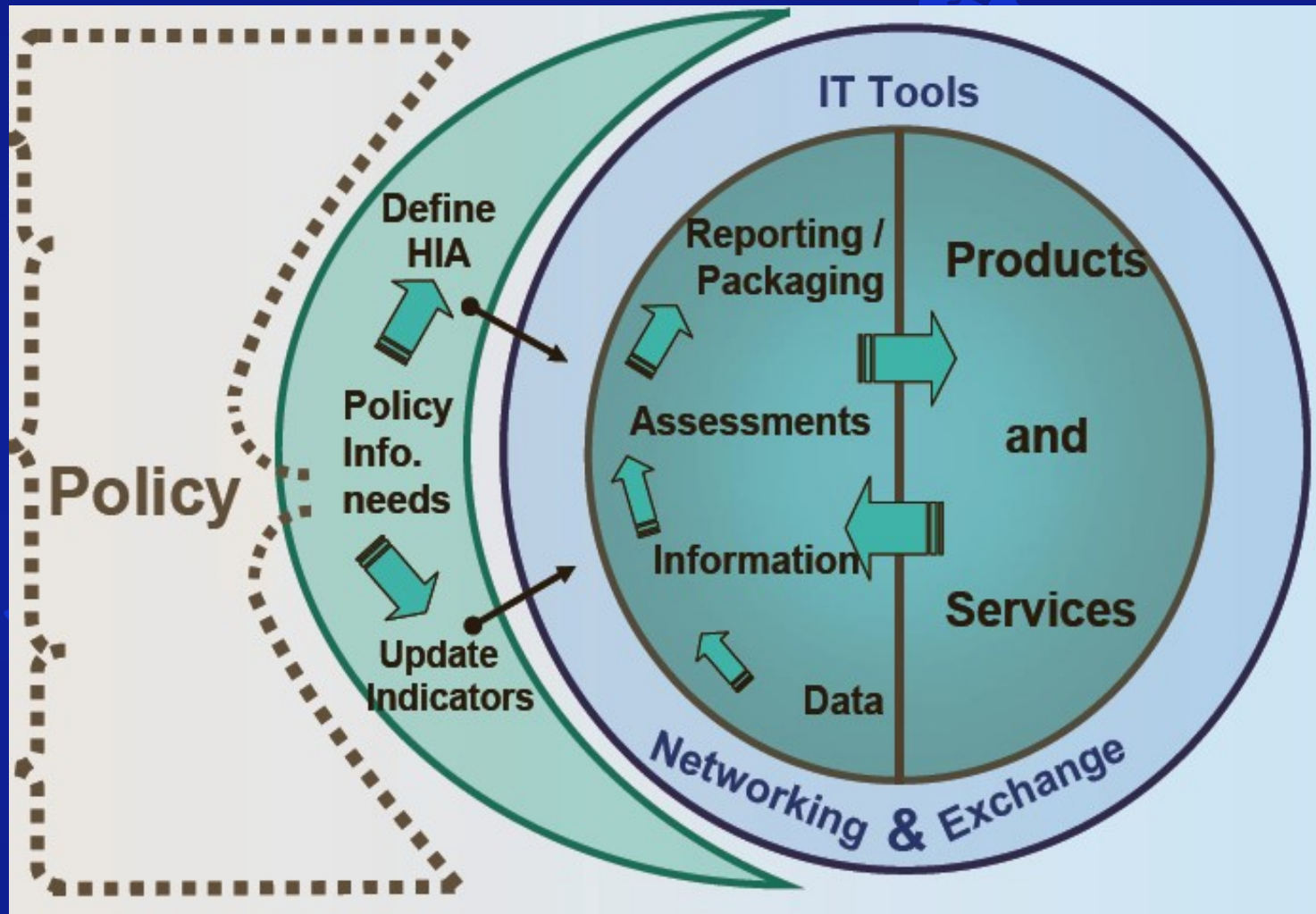
Overview of EPH indicators along CEHAPE RPG (4 of 4)

Disease & disability / hazardous chemicals, physical & biological agents; working environments

Indicator Title		Data source	Age
Policy actions to lower children's UV exposure	⊕	Member States	YES
Incidence of melanoma	☹	IARC	YES
Incidence of childhood leukaemia	☹	IARC	YES
Work injuries in employees under 18 yrs	😊	EUROSTAT	YES
Children's exposure to chemical hazards in food	☹	WHO TDS	NO
Blood lead level in children	☹	Case studies	YES
POPs in human breast milk	😊	WHO survey	YES
Children exposed to harmful noise at school	☹	Future	YES
Ratification of conventions related to CEHAPE	😊	Conventions web-sites	NO



Health – Environment Information System for Europe



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System Users and Products

Target users and 'clients':

Policy-makers at national,
regional and European level

Health professionals

International organizations

Interested groups

Product features:

Creates and maintains
public demand for H-E Info
system

Mobilizes the 'supply' i.e. the
Member States

Matches the 'supply' to user
demands – a challenge!



Products:

The Indicator-based Report



A 'standardized' product developed along a storyline which logically interlinks indicators and processes.

Focusing on 'core' data flows supports countries in defining priorities for data collection -> improved data quality

Enables use and re-use of information for reporting at national, EU scale and other international processes

The Web-based Service

EPH indicators and related analysis, presenting trends in time & space

Fact-sheets describing the situation and showing potential health benefits of actions and interventions

Well-structured information – user-friendly with different levels of detail



'Children's Health and the Environment in Europe: First Assessment'

- an indicator-based report on the CEHAPE four RPGs

Target: Intergovernmental mid-term review meeting, Vienna, 13-15 June 2007,
on implementation of the Budapest Declaration

Report outline (per RPG)

- **Public health issue:** how big is the problem (using key health indicators)
- **EPH indicator-based assessment of situation and trends:** determinants and room for improvement
- **Policies and regulations implemented in Member States:** description, follow-up mechanisms, potential health benefits
- **Overall progress on European Region-wide scale** in the context of implemented policies; priority data gaps and monitoring needs



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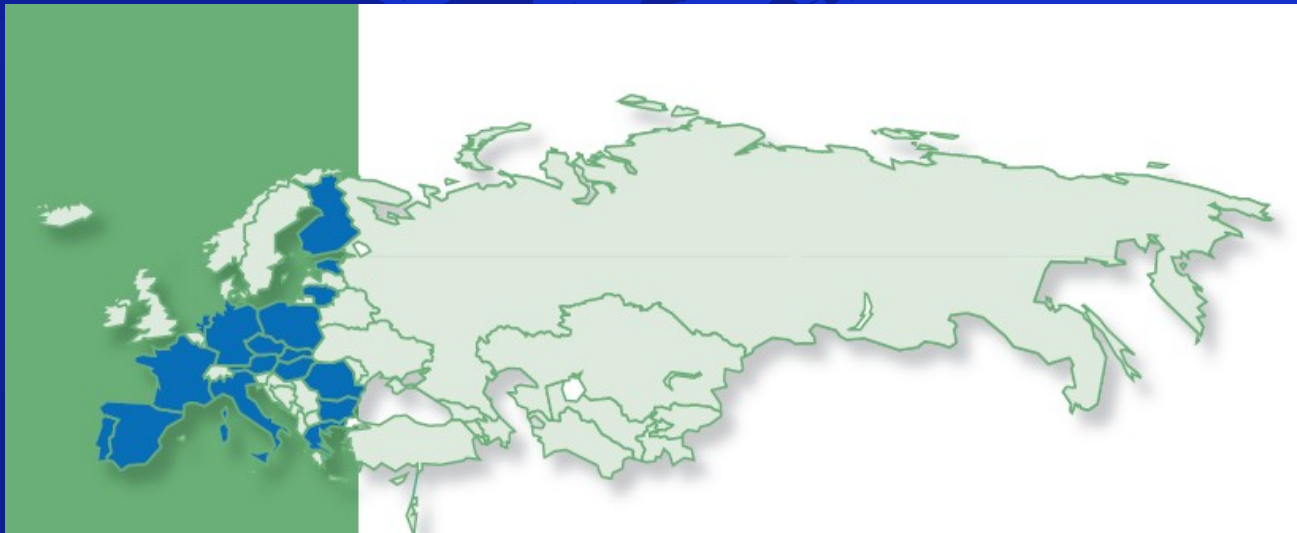
Methods and capacities for the health-environment information system are developed through projects.



ENHIS projects: multi-national collaborative efforts coordinated by WHO and co-sponsored by EC DG Sanco.

The aim: health-environment system as a part of the EC Health Information and Knowledge Base.

Opportunities: core data-flows through reporting obligations



WHO role –
knowledge transfer
towards the east of
the region: a
challenge!



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A Proposal for Collaboration

CEHAPE Assessment Report 2007

A 'mirror workshop' of
the H-E information
network back-to-back
with the joint review.

Where: Bonn

When: Feb 2007

A joint review of
the draft report:
sharing experience





Thank You

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More information:

<http://www.euro.who.int/EHindicators>

<http://www.euro.who.int/envhealth>



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